

CHARLES JOSEPH LA TROBE : A CHRONOLOGY

By

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(Edited with some corrections and additions by Helen Armstrong)

1801

20 March C.J. La Trobe was born at Kirby Street, London, the son of Moravian minister Christian Ignatius La Trobe and his wife Hannah (née Sims). Educated at the Moravian Fulneck School near Leeds, and the Fairfield Boys Boarding School near Manchester, he later taught at Fairfield.

1810

8 February Sophie de Montmollin born at Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

1821

24 July Rose Isabelle de Montmollin born at Valengin, Switzerland.

1824

24 October Charles La Trobe resigned from Fairfield to travel to Switzerland, where he was based in Neuchâtel, pursuing his personal interests, travelling and writing.

1825-26

He developed strong interests in geology, botany and alpine pursuits.

1827

February Completed more than two years of private study and adventure.

1829

His first book, *The Alpenstock, or Sketches of Swiss Scenery and Manners*, was published.

1832

The Pedestrian, A Summer's Ramble in the Tyrol was published.

1832-33

With his protégé Count Albert de Pourtalès and American author Washington Irving, La Trobe made a six months journey across North America.

1834

With Count Albert de Pourtalès and Charles M'Euen, friend of a Baltimore cousin, La Trobe made a four months journey to Mexico.

1835

late May *The Rambler in North America* was published in London.

30 May

La Trobe departed for the Continent after nearly a year in England. He stayed with various friends, most notably Frederic-Auguste de Montmollin at Jolimont near Lake Neuchâtel, prior to his proposal of marriage to Sophie in July.

16 September

Married Sophie, daughter of de Montmollin and his wife Rose (née de Meuron), in Berne, Switzerland.

5 October

He and Sophie set off for England for the winter months.

1836

- 6 May Death of Christian Ignatius La Trobe.
 late May *The Rambler in Mexico* was published in London.
 - July Charles La Trobe and Sophie returned to Neuchatel.
 29 September Captain William Lonsdale arrived in Melbourne to take up duty as police magistrate for Port Phillip.

1837

- British Government sent La Trobe to report on ways of assisting former slaves in the West Indies to adjust to their freedom.
 Elected a member of the Natural Sciences Society of Neuchâtel.
 2 April Agnes Louisa La Trobe was born at Neuchâtel.
 10 October Report 'Negro Education in Jamaica' presented by La Trobe to the Government.

1838

- 14 April Report 'Negro Education in the Windward & Leeward Islands' presented.
 14 August Report 'Negro Education in British Guiana & Trinidad' presented.

1839

- January La Trobe appointed Superintendent of Port Phillip District.
 24 March He embarked with his wife Sophie and daughter Agnes at London on the *Fergusson*, Captain Robertson.
 31 March Voyage to Australia begun.
 25 July Landed at Sydney.
 10 September La Trobe's appointment as Superintendent of the Settlement and District of Port Phillip proclaimed.
 16 September He sailed from Sydney in *Pyramus*, Captain Livesay.
 30 September Reached Hobson's Bay, where Captain William Lonsdale of the 4th Regiment welcomed him.
 1 October Landed in Melbourne where the population was now about 3,500.
 3 October La Trobe assumed office as Superintendent.
 9 November Laid foundation stone of St James' Church of England.
 19 November His prefabricated cottage was erected on the Police Paddock, southeast of Spring Street.
 - - Land sales boom began this year.

1840

- 14 February With Nicholas Fenwick, La Trobe visited Geelong.
 15 February He rode to Point Henry and Buckley's Cave.
 17 February Then to Hurst and Tuckfield's Barwon Mission station.
 16 March La Trobe visited Ryrie's Station at Yering.
 6 May Laid the foundation stone of the Wesleyan Church.
 10 June He purchased at auction 12½ acres (5 hectares) where his cottage had been erected.

1840

- 11 June *Port Phillip Patriot* newspaper reported on the first petition to Queen Victoria for separation of Port Phillip District from New South Wales.
- 26 July With Captain Lonsdale, La Trobe rode around Western Port to Bass River.
- 1 August On the way home he passed No Good Damper waterhole (Springvale), midway between the Yarra River and Dandenong Creek.
- 30 August With Eliot Heriot, he rode to Cape Schanck,
- 31 August and visited the site of the Sullivan Bay settlement.
- 25 October With Major Anderson, F.M. Powlett and Hugh Jamieson, he visited the Goulburn River.
- 24 November With Lonsdale and Charles Tyers, he climbed Station Peak in the You Yangs.
- 30 December The *Port Phillip Herald* was first published as a morning newspaper in Melbourne.

1841

- This year a period of depression set in, following the boom of 1839-40.
- January La Trobe visited Geelong, Indented Head and Shortland's Bluff.
- 13 May With G. Barton rode to Buninyong, thence
- 15 May to Mt. Emu, Fiery Creek, Lake Buloke, Hopkins River and on
- 16 May to The Grange (Hamilton).
- 17 May To Stephen Henty's at Portland.
- 20 May He began the homeward journey as far as George Airey's (Lal Lal),
- 25 May then rode home via Kiela (Keilor).
- 2 July To Barwon Mission station in the Otway Ranges.
- 6 July Back at Geelong, he returned by the steamer *Aphrasia* to Melbourne.
- 15 July Overlander Edward Bell appointed aide-de-camp to the Superintendent.
- 12 August The first Elizabeth Street Post Office was opened.
- 25 September La Trobe rode to Mollison's Coliban station and Parker's Aboriginal Mission station by Jim Crow Creek.
- 28 September To Mitchellstown, then along the Sydney Road via Kilmore and Beveridge's.
- September First Customs House building completed in Melbourne this month.
- 23 October Sir George Gipps, Governor of New South Wales, made his official visit to Port Phillip District.
- 26 October The official party sailed down the Bay on the *Aphrasia* to Geelong; visited Fyansford, Barrabool Hills and Corio.
- 27 October Governor Gipps, at a ball in Melbourne, exhorted all present to 'Advance Australia'.
- - La Trobe instituted relief work for the unemployed this year.
- 23 November He took his family to Williamstown for two weeks' holiday.
- - Government offices were established in buildings on Batman's Hill, bought for £200.
- 15 December Melbourne Market opened (on Western Market site).
- - Gold was found in the Plenty Ranges during 1841-42.

1842

- January La Trobe appointed Henry E.P. Dana to establish a Native Police Corps.
- 16 January La Trobe travelled to Murray's station at Colac, to Corangamite and the Border Police Station.
- 20 January From the Weatherboard to the Moorabool River and home.
- 1 February First performance in the Theatre Royal, Melbourne.
- 30 March Eleanora Sophia La Trobe was born.
- 21 July To Le Soeuf's Aboriginal Station by the Goulburn River.
- July With Powlett and Campbell, La Trobe climbed Mount Macedon.
- 12 August Melbourne was incorporated.
- 17 September La Trobe to Geelong with Nicholas Fenwick, to the mouth of the Barwon, then Shortland's Bluff.
- 31 October He again visited Mollison's station (Malmsbury and Pyalong area).
- 2 November Climbed Mount Alexander (the unsuspected location of a future goldfield).
- 3 November To Hepburn's station (Smeaton).
- 4 November To Stieglitz, and thence home.
- 1 December Elections were held for the first Melbourne Town Council.

1843

- 5 January First Constitution Act proclaimed in Sydney. Port Phillip to have five members in the New South Wales Legislative Council.
- 28 February La Trobe rode to Lake Colac and the Border Police Station,
- 1 March through the Stony Rises to Lake Purrumbete, thence Mount Shadwell, and to Mount Rouse Aboriginal Station;
- 2 March by Mount Napier to Eumeralla River and Mount Eccles;
- 3 March to Port Fairy;
- 4 March to Portland;
- 6 March to the Glenelg River and Muntham;
- 7 March to The Grange (Hamilton);
- 8 March to the foot of the Grampians, then back to Melbourne.
- 20 June Mary Cecilia (Cécile) La Trobe was born.
- 11 August La Trobe visited Baxter's and Point Nepean with Powlett, then
- 16 August to Merrick's.
- 19 December Set off with Sir John & Lady Franklin and Powlett,
- 21 December reached Mt Franklin where they watched an Aboriginal corroboree;
- 22 December To Smeaton's then Beveridge's, and
- 24 December via Bacchus Marsh, Pyke's and Keilor to home.
- 29 December Franklin climbed Arthur's Seat, 40 years after his first visit.

1844

- 3 February Sophie and the children went to Shortland's Bluff (Queenscliff) for a holiday.

1844

- 10 April La Trobe to Dandenong.
 30 April He visited Geelong and thence rode on to Portland;
 9 May To Merino Downs. On the way home, between Portland and Port Fairy, he saw 'the stranded boat' (the mahogany ship).
 6 August La Trobe at the Heads (Shortland's Bluff) till 9th.
 17 October To Geelong and Buntingdale Mission.
 9 November With George Airey via Kilmore to Murchison's; later to Tallarook and Seymour.
 18 November With Captain Bunbury he climbed Mount William.
 20 November On the way back he visited Goldsmith's station at Trawallo.
 10 December To the Heads till 13th. Planning and building his cottage on Shortland's Bluff.

1845

- 2 January To the Heads. The three-room cottage stood on the highest ground at the north end of Bluff (now the site of St. George's Church, Queenscliff).
 - January La Trobe had a bad fall at Lonsdale's place in Melbourne.
 19 January He was at the Heads till 23rd.
 1 February Again at the Heads till 5th.
 17 February To Geelong.
 22 February To the Heads till 24th.
 28 February La Trobe set out for Gippsland with Captain Dana;
 4 March they reached Port Albert, the
 7 March Eagle Point and the Border Police station.
 8 March To Lake King. La Trobe named the Franklin and Agnes Rivers on this Gippsland journey.
 11 March Return journey begun.
 15 March He went to the Heads until 19th.
 23 April Daughter Agnes sent home on the *Rajah* to Switzerland to be educated, aged just eight.
 3 May To Powlett's Station (near Macedon) with Captain Dana.
 4 May To Parker's Aboriginal Station.
 5 May Through the Pyrenees Ranges to Decameron station (Navarre),
 9 May Reached Edward Henty's at Muntham;
 10 May stayed at Merino Downs,
 13 May visited the boiling down establishment at Port Fairy,
 14 May visited the 'New Port' (Warrnambool) and chose the 'site for a Village'.
 15 May He commenced the return journey via Lake Terang, Colac, Station Peak, Werribee.
 2 June Melbourne *Argus* first published; it grew strongly critical of La Trobe.
 7 October He set out on the first attempt to find a way through the Ranges to Cape Otway.

1845

- 1 November Journey to Cape Schanck (Barker's).
3 December With Dana, he made a second attempt to reach Cape Otway; Port Campbell visited.
25 December Charles Albert La Trobe born.

1846

- 22 February La Trobe took his family to the cottage at the Heads until 24th.
28 February To the Heads until 29th.
13 March To the Heads until 18th.
20 March La Trobe laid the foundation stone of the Melbourne Hospital.
- - During this month John Arthur appointed first curator of the Botanic Gardens, for which La Trobe decided the site in 1845.
22 March To the Heads until 25th.
27 March He set off on the third attempt to reach Cape Otway;
31 March reached the Gellibrand River, and finally
2 April reached Cape Otway; camped by Johanna River.
5 April Visited the Lubras' Cave, then began the journey back.
17 April To the Heads until 20th.
18 June La Trobe laid the foundation stone of St Peter's Church, Eastern Hill.
12 July He visited Dandenong.
28 July To Buntingdale Mission.
24 August To Sydney for discussions with Governor FitzRoy.
27 August At Sydney until 6 October, when he departed for Melbourne.
6 October Appointed acting Administrator of Van Diemen's Land in place of Sir Eardley Wilmot who had been dismissed as Governor.
9 October To Launceston, thence Hobart Town by 13th.
- November He made a tour of inspection of the northern region of Van Diemen's Land.
6 December Before this date he had visited the Tasman Peninsula and the Port Arthur convict settlement.
19 December He set off to visit the west coast of Van Diemen's Land.

1847

- 7-17 January Sometime between these dates he ascended Mount Wellington.
29 January Arrival of the new Governor of V.D.L., Sir William Denison.
10 February La Trobe left Hobart on a slow journey back to Melbourne;
23 February reached Williamstown.
- March Orders-in-Council issued in England; these dealt with squatters' pre-emptive rights on stations and land tenure.
31 May Report on the Present state and prospects of the Convicts in Van Diemen's Land was presented to the British Government.
10 June La Trobe to Geelong.
25 June Melbourne was proclaimed a city.

1847

- 16 July La Trobe rode to Mount Rouse via Fyansford, Leigh River, and Frenchman's Inn; he returned via the Hopkins Inn, Elephant Inn, Wardy Yallock and Corio (24th).
- 10 September He rode to Geelong with Marley,
- 15 September climbed Station Peak, returned to Melbourne.
- 26 November With Grimes and Major F.B. St John, Crown Lands Commissioners, he visited Narre Warren; then
- 27 November with Grimes to Bunyip and Anderson's Creek;
- 28 November to Moe-Moe; saw Narrecoon bridge;
- 29 November reached Morwell River; then Snake Ridges on 30th;
- 1 December commenced journey back to Melbourne.
- 11 December He visited Geelong, Barrabool Hills and vineyards.
- 13 December He journeyed to Mt Mercer;
- 14 December to Learmonth's, Buninyong, and Goldsmith's at Trawallog; back via the Pentland Hills, Bacchus Marsh, and Keilor.

1848

- 10 January To Coliban (Malmsbury area); then
- 11 January to Carllsruhe and Grimes Border Police station.
- 23 January Arrival in Melbourne of Bishop Perry.
- 10 March La Trobe set off via the Pentland Hills to Buninyong;
- 11 March to Decameron station;
- 13 March through Rose's Pass (Gap) in the Grampians to the Black Range.
- 14 March He saw the McKenzie and Norton Rivers, Mount Zero and Mount Talbot and rode on to the Glenelg River;
- 15 March to Pigeon Ponds and The Chetwynd; and
- 18 March to Cape Bridgewater on the south coast.
- 19-20 March He was at Portland;
- 21 March to Warrnambool village, thence Terang and on to Story's Inn.
- 14 April To Geelong till 17th.
- 22 April To Geelong till 25th.
- April He moved his cottage at the Heads to Jolimont.
- 26 September He rode to Carllsruhe and on to Mitchell's Barfold station; then
- 28 September to Jeffrey's (future site of Kyneton), and
- 30 September returned via Mt Aitken and Keilor.
- 1 December To Geelong until 14th.
- - During 1848 Thomas Chapman found gold on Daisy Hill station (south of Maryborough).

1849

- 20 January La Trobe went with Dana to Geelong.
- 21 January En route to Cape Otway, he found Buntingdale abandoned.
- 22 January Rode through the peppermint forest and the fern-tree forest, and
- 23 January reached Cape Otway lighthouse.

1849

- 26 January He arrived at Moonlight Head after much difficult travelling, and
 29 January after more exploring arrived at Warrnambool.
 30 January Visited the Merri River and Special Survey, rode on to Port
 Fairy.
 31 January Reached Portland.
 2 February With Learmonth he visited Eumeralla.
 3 February Set off to travel to Muston's Creek, Farrell's Inn by the
 Hopkins River, Taddy Thomson's at Fiery Creek, then
 4 February to Trawallo (Goldsmith's), and
 5 February by Buninyong, Ballan, Bacchus Marsh and Keilor to home.
 12-22 March Sir Charles FitzRoy, Governor of New South Wales, made his
 official visit to Port Phillip District. He consented to La
 Trobe sending on any vessel arriving with convicts on board.
 2 May La Trobe to Geelong till 4th.
 9 May To Geelong till 15th.
 21 May To Geelong till 25th.
 8 August When the convict transport *Randolph* arrived in Hobson's Bay,
 La Trobe had it sent on to Sydney. Subsequently the transport
Adelaide was turned back at the Heads.
 29 August To Dandenong till 31st.
 17 October He visited Powlett's station near Macedon.
 20 October With Dana he passed Maiden Hills and Mount Beckwith on the way
 to Goldsmith's.
 22 October Arrived at the new village of Kyneton.
 23 October Visited Pyramid Hill.
 23 November To the Heads and Geelong.
 28 November Werribee River flooded. La Trobe could not reach Wedge's huts
 and had to return to Corio.
 29 November Yarra River flooded. La Trobe went by boat from the Bluff
 (Emerald Hill) over the fences of the cricket ground to the
 Custom House.
 29 November Ship *Royal George* arrived in Melbourne.
 20 December He rode via Rocky Waterholes and Beveridge's to Kilmore, then
 21 December via Pyalong to Baynton's, to Barfold, and
 22 December to Powlett's near Macedon.

1850

- 5 January La Trobe visited the gold-mine in the Pyrenees Range.
 12 January To Geelong till 13th.
 17 January To Kyneton, Bucknall's Hall's; on this journey he saw the gold-
 finder's hut.
 19 January To Decameron.
 20 January With Wright and Cameron he climbed Ben Nevis.
 21 January With Powlett he visited numerous stations, finishing at Buckra
 Bagnall.
 22 January He then went to Coombatook, Lake Bael Bael, Reedy Lake;

1850

- 23 January to Lake Boga, then Swan Hill.
- 26 January The expedition continued to Pyramid Hill, Mount Hope, Terrick Terrick.
- 27-29 January With horses lost and the heat extreme, La Trobe and his companions travelled on, close to exhaustion.
- 31 January Reached Kilmore. He had set out from Melbourne with 4 servants and 10 horses; all that remained were 2 'tired hacks'.
- 8-10 March Via Geelong, Colac to Niel Black's station, then to Muston's Creek; travelling with Dana,
- 11 March to Mount Sturgeon Inn;
- 13 March to Hall's Gap, Mount Dryden, Mount Drummond.
- 14 March He climbed to the summit of Mount William;
- 15 March left Ledcourt and travelled to Wright's by the Little Wimmera.
- 17 March Attended Sunday service at Decameron station; Bishop Perry's visit.
- 18 March Began the homewards journey past Mount Cole and Mount Langi Ghiran.
- 1 May Laid the foundation stone of the Geelong Infirmary and Benevolent Asylum, later known as the Geelong Hospital.
- 24 June Laid the foundation stone of the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum.
- 5 August Queen Victoria gave Royal assent to the Imperial Act which separated Port Phillip from New South Wales.
- 24 October La Trobe went to Dandenong and Cape Schanck;
- 25 October to Mount Eliza, McCrae and Dandenong.
- 11 November Nicholson, mayor of Melbourne, told La Trobe that the English Parliament had passed the Separation Bill.
- 12 November La Trobe read the proclamation of Separation on Flagstaff Hill.
- 15 November He declared Prince's Bridge open.

1851

- 1 January La Trobe appointed Lieutenant-Governor of new colony of Victoria as from 1 July.
- 9-11 January Heidelberg, Kangaroo Ground and Yering visited.
- 13 January Separation Act proclaimed, creating the Colony of Victoria.
- 6 February Black Thursday bushfires devastated a quarter of the colony.
- 22 February La Trobe left for Sydney to assist in preparing enabling legislation for the new colony of Victoria.
- 28 March Attended the opening of the Legislative Council when Governor FitzRoy presented the enabling legislation for the new colony.
- 10 May Returned from Sydney.
- 1 July Separation from New South Wales came into effect.
- 5 July Payable gold found at Anderson's Creek (Warrandyte) and Clunes.
- 15 July La Trobe sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria.
- 15 July Lonsdale appointed Colonial Secretary for Victoria.
- 15 July Alexander McCrae appointed Postmaster General for Victoria.
- 20 July Gold found at Mount Alexander.

1851

- August Gold licence fee of 30 shillings monthly was imposed.
- 2 September Official visit to Geelong as Governor (until 5th).
- 2 October La Trobe at Buninyong and Ballarat until 8th - first visit to the goldfields.
- 8 October Mount Alexander goldfield proclaimed; Frederick Powlett in charge.
- 22 October La Trobe departed from Mount Alexander goldfield.
- 24 October At Forest Creek diggings, south of the mount.
- 25 October Travelled with the Gold Escort to Mitchell's station with Powlett.
- 11 November Victoria's first Legislative Council met in Saint Patrick's Hall, 470 Bourke Street.
- 13 November La Trobe opened the first session of the Legislative Council.
- 19 November Castlemaine named, apparently on La Trobe's suggestion.

1852

- 6 January Licence system to be enforced on goldfields. Unsuccessful attempt to raise the fee to £3 this month.
- 10 February Supreme Court established.
- 19 February With Dana, La Trobe went to Yering to see Paul de Castella.
- 20 February La Trobe appointed William Wright as Chief Goldfields Commissioner with his headquarters, for Victoria's new Gold Department, at Castlemaine.
- 13 April La Trobe departed for another goldfields tour; he reached
- 15 April Brown Hill diggings; then visited
- 16 April Ballarat, Creswick and Clunes diggings;
- 17 April The Loddon and Forest Creek.
- 19 April At Forest Creek he encountered Alexander Tolmer, leader of the South Australian Gold Escort.
- 20 April La Trobe rode to Friar's (Fryer's) Creek; then to Kyneton with Dana and Commissioner Wright; and
- 23 April climbed Mount Alexander.
- 25 April At Bendigo goldfield with Commissioner Gilbert.
- 26 April At Bendigo goldfield with Commissioner Clow, Commissioner Wright Bell and Dana.
- 27 April To the McIvor diggings (Heathcote).
- 28 April To Seymour and then Avenel.
- 30 April He reached Wangaratta with Bell, Dana, Smythe;
- 1 May visited Reid's Creek and May Day Hills goldfields; then
- 2 May to Faithfull's, and Benalla on the way home.
- 17 November Carried out at a military inspection of the 40th Regiment.
- 20 November At Ballarat, he visited Eureka and Creswick diggings.
- 24 November At Forest Creek diggings.
- 25 November At Bendigo with Captain Bull; White Hills and White Hawk diggings inspected.
- 26 November To Sawpit Gully (Elphinstone) and Karlsruhe on the way home.

1852

- 19 December At the Quarantine Ground, Point Nepean; the *Ticonderoga* passengers quarantined.
- 21-22 December La Trobe rode to Settlement Point, Balcombe's, Hunter's and Davis, and 'to the Inn late'.
- 23 December He called at Mordialloc on the way home.
- 31 December La Trobe despatched his resignation to England.

1853

- 1 January La Trobe appointed William H.F. Mitchell to be Chief Commissioner of Police.
- 11 January The Public Library and the University of Melbourne were established.
- 18 February La Trobe's ailing wife Sophie, their three children, governess Mademoiselle Béguin and a maidservant boarded the *Blackwall* in Hobson's Bay for their return journey to Europe;
- 22 February The *Blackwall* sailed from Hobson's Bay, with La Trobe aboard to get 'everything comfortable' for his family;
- 25 February He landed at Shortland's Bluff and from the lighthouse watched the ship for 'more than an hour before I quite lost sight of her'.
- 15 April La Trobe departed for the Pyrenees Ranges.
- 16 April He was at Ballarat with Fenwick, Sherrett, Hamilton, Babington.
- 18 April At Creswick's Creek, Coghill's Creek, Clunes goldfield.
- 19 April At Daisy Hill where he saw the 'gold discovery 1848'; then Burn Bank, the Amphitheatre to Decameron.
- 21 April With Captain J. Le M. Carey, he climbed Ben Nevis.
- 23 April Glenwylln station (Davies').
- 24 April At the Avoca River; he saw Moliagul in the distance.
- 26 April At Korong goldfield with Carey and Reid.
- 30 April He toured Bendigo goldfields with Panton and Armstrong;
- 30 April to McIvor (purchased a rare crystalline gold nugget), the McIvor Inn and Pick and Shovel Inn; to Pyalong and Ferguson's;
- June La Trobe named Shortland's Bluff, Queenscliff.
- 26-29 July He sent a privately printed circular to early settlers requesting a first-hand record of the settlement of the colony.
- 20 September Laid the foundation stone of the Geelong Railway Terminus. Work was begun on the Melbourne-Hobson's Bay railway.
- 28 October To Queenscliff.
- 31 October To Capel Sound and Settlement Point.
- 26 November Visited Capel Sound, Arthur's Seat and Queenscliff localities in the *Corsair* during 26-30 November.
- 15 December Draft Constitution for Victoria was presented to the Legislative Council.
- 28 December Presented with a golden testimonial vase, also referred to as a cup, made by Bond and Tofield at a farewell ball in Melbourne. It weighed 170 ounces (4.82kg) and cost 1,000 guineas (£1,050).
- 31 December Auction of 'La Trobe dairy farms' (400 acres, 162 ha) near Queenscliff. All 12 were apparently sold by the end of April.

1854

- 21 January La Trobe went to Yering.
- 28 January With Carey to Geelong; he had dinner with Claud Farie, Taddy Thomson and others.
- 30 January With Carey to Queenscliff.
Sophie La Trobe died at Neuchâtel.
- 17-21 February On the *Pacifico* to Quarantine Station and Capel Sound.
- 6 March With Stawell he rode to Yan Yean, Mount Disappointment and Reservoir - 'My last good ride in Australia'.
- 24 March Constitution Bill passed by the Legislative Council.
- 27 April La Trobe read Sophie's death notice in the London *Morning Post* newspaper of 8 February, and a few days later
- 1 May received family letters telling him of her death.
- c.5 May Approved the creation of Royal and Princes Parks from a large tract of land previously reserved for recreation purposes.
- 6 May La Trobe on steamship *Golden Age* sailed through the Heads, 14 years, 7 months and 6 days after he arrived in Port Phillip.
- 22 June Sir Charles Hotham arrived in Melbourne.

1855

- La Trobe in London.
- - Received from the people of Victoria a silver candelabrum testimonial made in London by Smith, Nicholson and Co.
- 14 March Presented to Queen Victoria by Sir George Grey, late Secretary of State for the Colonies, at a St James's Palace levee.
- 27 March Admitted to the Athenaeum Club, Pall Mall, London.
- 27 June Received by Queen Victoria at a St James's Palace levee.
- August Sophie La Trobe's memorial tablet shipped in the *Hebonheath* for Melbourne, for placing at St Peter's Eastern Hill.
- 3 October Charles La Trobe married Rose Isabelle de Meuron, née de Montmollin, widowed sister of Sophie, in Neuchâtel.
- December Moved to Ightham Mote in Kent.
- 31 December Death in Melbourne of Sir Charles Hotham, La Trobe's successor.

1856

- - La Trobe wrote the manuscript of 'Australia: Memoranda of Journeys, Excursions and Absences 1839-54'.
- 7 May Received by Queen Victoria at a St James's Palace levee.
- Mid May Moved to Addington Vale, Addington near Maidstone, Kent.
- 3 September Margaret Rose La Trobe was born at Addington.

1857

- March First land sales took place at Jolimont.
- 30 April Departed from Addington Vale and spent the summer in Switzerland.

1858

- - La Trobe living largely in Switzerland.
- February He sold a rare crystalline gold nugget, weighing 23 ounces or 717 grams, to the Natural History Museum, London, for the sum of £157.10s.

1858

- 9 June Isabelle Castellane Helen La Trobe was born at Greng, Switzerland.
- 18 September Moved to Whitbourne Court, Whitbourne, near Worcester.
- 22 November La Trobe was appointed Companion of the Order of the Bath, for civil service of the highest calibre.

1859

- 2 March Presented to Queen Victoria by Edward Bulwer Lytton, Secretary of State for the Colonies, at a St James's Palace levee on appointment as Companion of the Bath

1860

- 11 May La Trobe arranged to forgo remittances for six months, to help build up his investments in Victoria for his old age and the sake of his dependants.

1862

- July Sight of his left eye began to deteriorate.
- 21 August Auction of elegant household furniture and effects at Jolimont.

1865

- - Jolimont was further sub-divided.
- - A silver presentation vase made in London in 1864 by Hunt and Roskell is believed to have been presented to La Trobe.
- 22 June England's Colonial Governors (Pension) Bill was amended to provide a one-third pension for La Trobe of £333.6s.8d a year, based on the lowest salary received during his last four years in Victoria.
- 12 October Sight of his right eye badly diminished; he was now practically blind.

1866

- 14 February At Jolimont the allotment containing the main cottage was sold.
- 31 December Departed from Whitbourne Court, Worcester and lived in London, at Worcester Park, Kingston-on-Thames, and then at Upper Gore Lodge (Lady Franklin's), Kensington, London W.

1867

- 18 September La Trobe moved to Clapham House, Litlington, near Eastbourne, Sussex.

1871

- June Last land sales took place at Jolimont.

1872

- 19 March La Trobe sent letters of Victorian early settlers to his agent, James Graham, to be given to 'say the Public Library or other Public Archives'. They were later published as *Letters from Victorian Pioneers*.

1874

- May Charles Albert La Trobe arrived in Melbourne on a visit from England.
- 26 August Isabelle La Trobe died, aged 16.
- 19 October Agnes Louisa La Trobe married Comte Pierre de Salis-Soglio of Neuchâtel.

1875

- 20 February Charles Albert La Trobe departed from Melbourne on the *Nubia*.
- 4 December Charles Joseph La Trobe died, aged 74. He was buried at Litlington.

1876

- February Rose La Trobe departed from Clapham House and by July had returned to her native Neuchâtel.
- 12 September Charles Albert La Trobe married actress Carlotta Addison.

1878

- 30 June Memorial chapel to La Trobe inaugurated at Neuchâtel. It had been built by Rose La Trobe in memory of her husband and also of their daughter Isabelle.

1883

- 16 January Rose La Trobe died in Neuchâtel, aged 61.
- 17 July Mary Cecilia (Cécile) La Trobe married Georges Godet, Professor of Theology and History, Neuchâtel.
- - Eleanora Sophia La Trobe continued to live in Eastbourne, Sussex.